

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 06970 061306Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----031149 061308Z /20
O 061240Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 729
INFO AMEMBASSY BISSAU
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 6970

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, CG, AO, LI
SUBJECT: ZAIRIAN-ANGOLAN RELATIONS: POSSIBLE MEDIATION BY LIBERIA

REF: KINSHASA 6872 (NOTAL)

1. LIBERIAN AMBASSADOR WALLACE TOLD ME JULY 6 THAT HE HAS PROPOSED TO HIS GOVERNMENT THAT IT OFFERS ITS SERVICES AS MEDIATOR BETWEEN ZAIRE AND ANGOLA. REALIZING THAT LIBERIAN ROLE MIGHT BE LESS ACCEPTABLE TO ANGOLANS THAN ZAIRIANS, WALLACE FURTHER RECOMMENDED THAT GUINEA-BISSAU BE ASKED TO JOIN LIBERIA IN ITS EFFORTS. IDEA WOULD BE THAT PRESIDENTS TOLBERT AND CABRAL (WHO WALLACE SAYS HAVE GOOD PERSONAL RELATIONS) WOULD GET TOGETHER WITH MOBUTU AND NETO AT FORTHCOMING OAU SUMMIT IN KHARTOUM.

2. DURING JULY 4 RECEPTION WALLACE INFORMALLY RAISED IDEA OF MEDIATION BY LIBERIA (BUT NOT BY GUINEA-BISSAU, WHICH CAME AS AFTERTHOUGHT) WITH GOZ DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER, WHO RESPONDED VERY FAVORABLY. WALLACE CLAIMS THIS WAS FIRST AND ONLY TIME HE HAS DISCUSSED LIBERIAN ROLE WITH GOZ. HE SAID HE WOULD LET ME KNOW MONROVIA'S REACTION.

3. COMMENT: AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, LATEST READING IS THAT GOZ
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WOULD BE MORE AMENABLE TO INVOLVEMENT BY LIBERIA THAN BY CONGO OR OTHERS WHICH IN THE PAST HAVE TRIED OR OFFERED TO HELP GET A DIALOGUE GOING BETWEEN KINSHASA AND LUANDA. PROPOSAL TO BRING IN CABRAL WOULD SEEM TO HAVE SOME MERIT, ALTHOUGH ADDRESSEES ARE IN BETTER POSITION THAN WE ARE HERE TO ASSESS THIS ASPECT OF THE PROBLEM.
CUTLER

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